

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-30 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please add new Claims 31-45 to read as follows.

Claims 1-30 (cancelled)

31. (New) An information processing apparatus for causing a plurality of printers to execute printing, said apparatus comprising:

a discrimination unit, arranged for discriminating whether a document comprising a plurality of pages is to be printed as a plurality of copies or as a single copy; and

a print data unit, arranged for generating print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document copy by copy if said discrimination unit discriminates that the document is to be printed as a plurality of copies, and generating print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document page by page if said discrimination unit discriminates that the document is to be printed as a single copy.

32. (New) An apparatus according to claim 31, wherein if said discrimination unit discriminates that the document is to be printed as a single copy, said print data unit divides the number of pages of the document by the number of printers to

obtain a number of print pages for each printer and generates the print data based on the obtained number of print pages.

33. (New) An apparatus according to claim 31, further comprising a transmission unit arranged for transmitting the print data generated by said print data unit to the printers.

34. (New) An apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the printers include an ink jet printer.

35. (New) An apparatus according to claim 31, further comprising a second discrimination unit arranged for discriminating whether copy-by-copy printing is designated, if said discrimination unit discriminates that the document is to be printed as a plurality of copies, wherein said print data unit generates the print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document copy by copy if said second discrimination unit discriminates that the copy-by-copy printing is designated, and generates print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document page by page if said second discrimination unit discriminates that the copy-by-copy printing is not designated.

36. (New) An information processing method for causing a plurality of printers to execute printing, said method comprising:

a discrimination step of discriminating whether a document comprising a plurality of pages is to be printed as a plurality of copies or as a single copy; and

a print data generating step of generating print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document copy by copy if said discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a plurality of copies, and generating print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document page by page if said discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a single copy.

37. (New) A method according to claim 36, wherein if said discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a single copy, said print data generating step divides the number of pages of the document by the number of printers to obtain a number of print pages for each printer and generates the print data based on the obtained number of print pages.

38. (New) A method according to claim 36, further comprising a transmission step of transmitting the print data generated in said print data generating step to the printers.

39. (New) A method according to claim 36, wherein the printers include an ink jet printer.

40. (New) A method according to claim 36, further comprising a second discrimination step of discriminating whether copy-by-copy printing is designated, if said discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a plurality of copies, wherein said print data generating step generates the print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document copy by copy if said second discrimination step discriminates that the copy-by-copy printing is designated, and generates print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document page by page if said second discrimination step discriminates that the copy-by-copy printing is not designated.

41. (New) A computer program executed in an information processing apparatus for causing a plurality of printers to execute printing, said program comprising:

a discrimination step of discriminating whether a document comprising a plurality of pages is to be printed as a plurality of copies or as a single copy; and

a print data generating step of generating print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document copy by copy if said discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a plurality of copies, and generating print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document page by page if said discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a single copy.

42. (New) A program according to claim 41, wherein if said discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a single copy, said print data generating step divides the number of pages of the document by the number of

printers to obtain a number of print pages for each printer and generates the print data based on the obtained number of print pages.

43. (New) A program according to claim 41, further comprising a transmission step of transmitting the print data generated in said print data generating step to the printers.

44. (New) A program according to claim 41, wherein the printers include an ink jet printer.

45. (New) A program according to claim 41, further comprising a second discrimination step of discriminating whether copy-by-copy printing is designated, if said discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a plurality of copies, wherein said print data generating step generates the print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document copy by copy if said second discrimination step discriminates that the copy-by-copy printing is designated, and generates print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document page by page if said second discrimination step discriminates that the copy-by-copy printing is not designated.